

Charitable Foundation

Rockland Trust's philanthropic mission is to strengthen the communities served by the Bank. We enable individuals and their families to access opportunity and improve the quality of their lives.

Organization Eligibility

Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation provides grants to 501(c)(3) Public Charities in good standing with the IRS. If you are an organization with a fiscal sponsorship relationship, please email Charitable.Giving@RocklandTrust.com to discuss with our staff prior to submission.

The following organization types are not eligible for **grant** support:

- Organizations where the request will benefit a very limited number of individuals or a single family (such as Habitat for Humanity, Make-a-Wish, etc.)
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, religion, national origin, disability, family status, receipt of public assistance, sexual orientation, or gender identity
- Single-disease research and/or national support organizations
- Other grantmaking organizations (United Ways, private foundations, community foundations, etc.)
- Scout troops
- Religious organizations (activities for religious purposes)
- Political organizations
- Government Agencies, including Town or City departments or schools
- Police, Fire, Labor or Fraternal organizations
- Individuals or families

Please note: Rockland Trust does not typically fund multiple applications (grant, sponsorship OR donation) from the same organization in a single calendar year.

Organizations must be located in, and serve individuals of, at least one of the following geographic areas:

Barnstable County, MA
Bristol County, MA
Dukes County, MA
Essex County, MA

Middlesex County, MA
Nantucket County, MA
Norfolk County, MA
Plymouth County, MA

Suffolk County, MA
Worcester County, MA
Providence County, RI

Eligible Requests

The Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation provides program and general operating funding that meet its defined focus areas, listed below, through its grant program.

Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation **does not** support the following request types through its grant program:

- Capital requests (renovation or construction of buildings, fields, pools, playgrounds, libraries, etc. **OR** the purchase of equipment or vehicles)
- Requests where Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation is the sole funder
- Annual Fund drives or campaigns
- Scholarship programs
- Requests for specific funding to support a nonprofit's internal diversity, equity and inclusion programs. This type of funding is handled through a separate grant program.

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Focus Areas

The Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation prioritizes its grants to direct-service organizations and programs that serve a majority low-to-moderate income population in the following areas:

- **Affordable Housing** – priority is given to programs that create and provide safe, affordable housing, or provide programs and services to provide shelter and/or foster homeownership or ensure that individuals and families stay in their current homes, thereby preventing homelessness. Examples of funded programs are:
 - Development of low-to-moderate income housing
 - Emergency home repairs
 - Rental assistance programs
 - Homebuyer education programs
 - Foreclosure prevention and homeowner counseling programs
 - Domestic violence and homeless shelters

- **Children & Youth** – priority is given to programs that are preventive in nature and that focus on providing children and youth equal access and opportunity to programs and services that foster health, wellness, education, and leadership skills to achieve their full potential. Examples of funded programs are:
 - Parenting education and training
 - Early childhood education
 - Social-emotional and mental health
 - After-school enrichment/tutoring programs in sports, arts, leadership ***with an educational component***
 - Mentoring and literacy programs
 - Access to summer camps for underserved youth
 - Career/College exploration, preparation and support

Please note: Requests for sports teams, parent teacher organizations (PTOs), Scout troops, local scholarships, education foundations and basic needs drives (holiday gifts, backpacks, clothing, etc.) are funded through Rockland Trust’s Community Donation program.

Please see [Community Donation Giving Guidelines](#) for details

- **Financial Inclusion & Workforce Development** – priority is given to programs that provide consumers and individuals with financial education and build employment skills they will need to achieve their potential and become contributing members of society. Examples of funded programs are:
 - Financial literacy education, including money management, budgeting, banking, credit building and debt reduction
 - Adult education, e.g., English as a Second Language
 - Job preparation, training, and placement

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- **Small Business Support** – priority is given to organizations that provide programs to support small businesses and entrepreneurial assistance programs that strengthen our communities.

Grant Application, Size and Review Timeline

Grant applications are accepted **only** via our online portal. Applications may be saved at any time in the process to resume later. We recommend that you create a WORD file of your responses to copy and paste as needed.

Add mail@grantapplication.com to your safe senders list to ensure you receive all system communications.

The following attachments are **REQUIRED** for review and consideration of your grant application:

- A copy of the IRS Letter of Determination documenting the 501(c)(3) public charity status
- A copy of the organization's signed W-9
- List of Organization's Board and/or Advisory Members with professional affiliations
- Organization's Current Fiscal Year Budget
- Organization's Most Recent Audit, *if required to file one with the IRS*
- Proposed Project Budget, *if applying for project support*

Rockland Trust's average grant amount is \$5,000, but can range from \$2,500 - \$10,000+. Grants of more than \$10,000 will be supported by a grant agreement signed by the grantee. The Foundation reserves the right to make grants in multi-year installments. Grant support of an organization in one year does not guarantee support in subsequent years.

Grant applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Our program closes for the calendar year on Friday, October 11, 2024 at 5:00 EST. We encourage nonprofits to apply early.

Organizations should expect to receive a response to an application with a determination or additional questions between eight to twelve weeks after the submittal date.

Questions? Please send an email to Charitable.Giving@RocklandTrust.com to ensure the quickest response.